

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 31, 2004

Signature:

(Ronald E. Cahill)

AF/3731
Jew
Docket No.: 22956-71

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: I. McRury et al.

Application No.: 10/024,625

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: December 18, 2001

Examiner: B. Pantuck

For: SUTURE WELDING SYSTEM AND METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.